

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06

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R 131019Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2744

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PFOR PORG ILO TS

SUBJECT: WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE PREPARATORY MEETING
IN TUNIS ENDS; TECHNICAL QUESTIONS PREDOMINATE

REF: TUNIS 3180

1. SUMMARY: AFRICAN/WEST ASIAN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR
WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE HELD IN TUNIS MAY 4 THROUGH
7 ENDED WITH GENERAL ACCEPTANCE BY PARTICIPANTS OF SERIES
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OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WEC IN JUNE. RECOMMENDATIONS ARE

LARGELY TECHNICAL AND DO NOT INCLUDE ANY POLITICAL QUESTIONS EXTRANEIOUS TO WEC AGENDA. GOT SOURCES ADVISED EMBASSY THAT NO CONTENTIOUS POLITICAL DEBATE ERUPTED DURING PREPARATORY MEETING AND THAT PARTICIPANTS STAYED CLOSE TO CONFERENCE THEME. SOURCE INDICATED THAT SOME MOVE MAY BE DEVELOPING TO ASSERT AUTHORITY OF WEC OVER ITS OWN AGENDA, BUT HE JUDGED THAT THIS COULD BE "FINESSED" IN ORDER TO KEEP WEC ON TECHNICAL TRACK. END SUMMARY.

2. MAY 4 THROUGH 7 PREPARATORY MEETING OF AFRICAN AND WEST ASIAN COUNTRIES FOR WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE WAS JUDGED A SUCCESS BY GOT OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS MANAGMENT. AFTER WELCOMING SPEECH BY GOT PRIME MINISTER HEDI NOUIRA WHICH OUTLINED TUNISIAN EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND POINTED OUT URGENT NEED FOR CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO SOLVE GROWING WORLD UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM, TUNISIAN MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS MOHAMED LTTP EUR WAS ELECTED PRESIDING OFFICER OF PREPARATORY MEETING. UNDER HIS MANAGEMENT, CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS COMPOSED SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE WEC IN GENEVA IN JUNE.

3. PREPARATORY MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWED CLOSELY THE STANDING ORDER FOR WEC CONCERNING STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT, MANPOWER MIGRAIONS, USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR EMPLOYMENT CREATION, AND THE ROLE OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT CREATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE MOST NOTEWORTHY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CALLED FOR QONTROL OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEIR TRANSFOYMATION INTO FINISHED PRODUCTS IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, THE CREATION OF A FUND FOR EMPLOYMENT CREATION SIMILAR TO UN FUND FOR POPULATION, GREATER MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND TECHNICAL KNOWLDGE TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO PERMIT MORE EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR, AND A REGIONALIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING. REGARDING MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS, THE PREPARATORY MEETING RECOMMENDED THAT PRIVATE FIRMS INTEREST THEMSELVES MORE IN RAISING OHE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THEIR WORKERS AND IN IMPROVING THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TECHNICAL SKILLS, ESPECIALLY IN MANAGEMENT AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. RECOMMENDATIONS ALSO CALLED FOR OPENING OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' MARKETS TO PRODUCTS COMING FROM THIRD WORLD, AND ENDORSED LAGUAGE CALLING FOR A "NEW INERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER."

4. GOT MINISTRY OF SOIAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR OF LABOR (CHERIF), WHO PLAYED KEY ROLE IN CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT,

TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT GOT CONSIDERED IT A GREAT SUCCESS. HE SAID THAT THERE WAS NO ATTEMPT TO LEAD CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AWAY FROM TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND INTO EXTRANEIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES. SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID THAT NO PARTICIPANT SOUGHT TO INJECT MIDDLE EAST QUESTION INTO CONFERENCE. ON QUESTION OF RELATIVE POWERS OF STEERING COMMITTEE AND GENERAL CONFERENCE, CHERIF INDICATED THAT THERE WAS DISSATISFACTION MANIFESTED OVER POWER HELD BY STEERING COMMITTEE BUT HE THOUGHT THIS COULD BE "FINESSED" IN ORDER TO PREVENT ATTEMPTS TO DIVERT WEC TO POLITICAL ISSUES. HE BELIEVED GENERAL CONFERENCE SHOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE "PRO FORMA" APPROVAL TO AGENDA AND WAS CONVINCED THAT IT WOULD DO SO WITHOUT SEEKING TO ALTER AGENDA. CHARIF SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT PARALLEL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR WEC HELD IN CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA, FO LATIN AMERICAN AND EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES HAD NOT HELD ITSELF TO TECHNICAL ISSUES AS HAD THE MEETING IN TUNIS.

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